GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – Registration & Stamps Department – Allegation of tearing and tampering of records against the staff working in Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry – disciplinary proceedings initiated against Sri Md.Shajahan, Junior Assistant, Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry among certain others - Regular enquiry conducted – Report submitted – Enquiry report communicated – Representation submitted – examined – Imposed a punishment of stoppage of three annual grade increments with cumulative effect – Orders – Issued.

REVENUE (VIGILANCE-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.963 **Dated:14-09-2017**

Read the following:

1. DR, R&S, Rajahmundry Lr.No.G1/368/2014, dt:30-5-2014.
2. DIG, R&S, Kakinada Lr.No.X/388/2014, dt:9-12-2014 & dt:30-9-2015.
3. DIG, R&S, Kakinada Charge Memo.No.X/388/2014-1, dt:28-11-2014.
4. WSD of Sri Md.Shajahan, Jr.Asst., dt:15-12-2014.
5. G.O.Rt.No.1211, Rev (Vig.II) Deptt., dt:27-11-2015.
6. G.O.Rt.No.1212, Rev (Vig.II) Deptt., dt:27-11-2015.
7. G.O.Rt.No.1328, Rev (Vig.II) Deptt., dt:31-12-2015.
8. DIG, R&S, Kakinada Lr.No.X/388/2014-2, dt:1-10-2016.
9. Govt., Memo.No.36555/Vig.II(1)/2014-5, dt:10-1-2017.
10. Representation of the CO Sri Md.Shajahan, Jr.Asst., dt:Nil.
11. Govt., Lr.No.36555/Vig.II(1)/2014-6, dt:13-6-2017.
12. APPSC Lr.No.511/DC&C/1/2017, dt:12-7-2017.

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ORDER:

Whereas, in the reference 2nd read above, the Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada has brought to the notice of the Government that certain officials of Registration & Stamps department who worked previously in the Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry from 2011 onwards were involved in tearing and tampering of records in Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry.

2. And whereas, in the reference 3rd read above, the Disciplinary Authority i.e., the Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada has initiated disciplinary proceedings against Sri Md.Shajahan, Junior Assistant, Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry duly framing the following charge among certain others.

Charge-: That Sri Md.Shahjahan, Junior Assistant, Sub Registrar Office, Seethanagaram who worked previously i.e., from 2011 in Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry among 8 others have committed grave misconduct in as much as they have failed to safeguard and preserve the records of the office.

That on a complaint received from one Sri Addepalli Chenna Kesava, S/o late Nageswara Rao, R/o Rajahmundry alleging that the Registrar Office, Rajahmundry issued copies of three fake documents, verification of the records was made by the Preliminary enquiry officer and the following fraudulent act was found, for which the above named official (under suspension) who are handling the records are jointly and collectively responsible.

Torn out and replacement with fake pages in Book-I:
Volume No.1247 – Pages 65 to 73 (3 sheets)
Page No.47 to 64.

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Apart from the above, the relevant pages in index I & II were also torn out in order to disappearance of evidence. Verification of the D-Account Registrar discloses the following details with regard to movement of the relevant Volumes of Book-I:

S.No	Date of taking the relevant volume for preparing C.C.	S.No. & C.No.	Doc. No. meant for C.C.	Volume No
1	22.3.2011	1532/11 & 1463/11	5093/74	1247
2	5.6.2013	3575/13 & 3508/13	5093/74	1247
3	5.6.2013	3576/13 & 3509/13	6088/79	1427
4	5.6.2013	3577/13 & 3510/13	6149/79	1433
5	7.6.2013	3636/13 & 3569/13	6088/79	1427
6	7.6.2013	3637/13 & 3568/13	5093/74	1247
7	10.6.2013	3662/13 & 3593/13	6149/79	1433
8	28.2.2014	232/14 & 1427/14	6149/79	1433
9	28.2.2014	233/14 & 1428/14	6088/79	1247

As per the Standing orders in vogue on the subject, as enunciated in new S.O.Nos.1112 and 1113 (i), the above named staff member (u/s) is individually and collectively responsible for the tampering and, loss or destruction of records.

Thus, he acted in a manner which is unbecoming of Government Servant and thereby contravened the provisions of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

3. The Charged Officer submitted Written Statement of Defence in the reference 4th read above. Due to involvement of certain Retired officials along with in service officials, the Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada has sent proposals for conducting common enquiry as all of them were involved in common irregularity vide reference 2nd read above.

4. And whereas, in the reference 5th read above, Government have ordered for common enquiry against all the 25 Registration officials who were commonly involved in the allegation of tearing and tampering of records in the Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry.

5. In the refrences 6th & 7th read above, Government appointed the Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada as Inquiring Authority and the District Registrar, Registration & Stamps, Machilipatnam as Presenting Officer.

6. The Inquiring Authority in the reference 8th read above has furnished the Inquiring report stating among others that the charges framed against Sri Md. Shajahan, Junior Assistant, Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry was held proved among certain others.

7. Government have examined the matter and in the reference 9th read above, communicated a copy of the report of the Inquiring Authority to the Charged Officer for submitting his representation if any on the findings of Inquiring Authority.

8. And whereas, in the reference 10th read above, the Charged Officer submitted representation stating among others that previously he worked as Junior Assistant in Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajamahendravaram from the month of September 2009 to 26-06-2013 and stated that he discharged duties as per allocation by Joint Sub Registrar-I as Data Entry Operator. He has further stated that he worked as Junior Assistant "D" Account from 20-06-2011 to 26-06-2013 and stated that while dealing "D" Accounts seat, he attended the work of preparation of certified copies and encumbrance certificates. He further stated that on

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05.06.2013 as per the application received in the Registrar Office and as per the instructions of his superior officers, he brought the book volumes No.1247,1427, and 1433 from the record room through office subordinate to his seat and took photos of the document Nos.5093/74, 6088/79 and 6149/79 with service camera in open office room and developed copies with Photoshop technology on office computer and then produced the prepared certified copies of document before another Junior Assistant for comparision and verification. After that process, he produced the same before the Joint Sub Registrar-II and after due confirmation and signature by the Joint Sub Registrar-II the documents were delivered to the applicants. In this process it is quite impossible for him to tear the original documents, affixing the fake documents and then preparation of certified copy for delivery. The possibility of allegation of tampering of documents under such circumstance is beyond imagination even by a common man. He has therefore stated that it is erroneously held as if, the fake documents were affixed in place of original documents on 05.06.2013. He has further stated that the fake documents were already in existence in place of original documents and it is similar to that of hand writing of other original documents available in the book volumes and paper used is also similar to that age. He has further stated that in between his tenure as "D" Account Junior Assistant and M.S.Kiranmayi "D" Account Junior Assistant, one Sri M.V.Prasada Rao worked as "D" Account Junior Assistant for a period of 3 months and during this tenure also, there was every possibility that records might have been tampered. He further stated that he totally denied to the effect that he never prepared certified copies with old volumes. He has also stated that he cannot be made a scape goat simply because he was a "D" Account Junior Assistant on that particular day of preparation of certified copy of documents on 05-06-2013 as if he has torned the original documents and affixed the fake documents and then prepared certified copies. He has further stated that to assume the charges as proved, as per the CCA rules the charge must be definite at what time, at what place it was taken with full proof of evidence to sustain the allegation and stated that it is beyond preponderance of probability in this instant case for proving the charges as proved against him. He has further stated that as per SO 9(e) all applications for searches and copies shall be attended to by the Joint Sub-Registrar-II and stated that on 19.12.2012, he prepared the certified copy of document No.5093/1974 for giving to the applicant Thadi Sure Reddy S/o. Baapanna, Anaparthi upon which Sri M. Rajababu, the then Joint Sub Registrar-II signed after due verification and delivered to the applicant and stated that it clearly shows that the documents were tampered prior to 19-12-2012 and also another certified copy of document No.6088/1979 was also prepared for giving to the applicant Karri Chandra Rao S/o. Satyanarayana, Jaggampeta. While stating the above he has requested the Government to consider his representation and to drop further action or order for fresh enquiry in the matter.

9. Government careful examination and keeping in view the findings of the Inquiring Authority observed that the charged officer worked as Data Entry Operator for some time and later he maintained Account D during the period from 23.3.2012 to 26.6.2013. It is further observed that the Charged Officer himself stated that he might have admitted the applications for certified copies of documents refered in the charge memo. It is further observed that by over sight he might have missed to identify the fake nature of the documents. Therefore, it is obseved that he is collectively and individually responsible for the tampering, loss or destruction of the records as per S.Os.1112 and 1113(i).

10. After careful consideration of the matter it has been provisionally decided to impose a penalty of stoppage of three annual grade increments with cumulative effect against Sri Md.Shajahan, Senior Assistant, Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry and sought for concurrence of

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Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission in the reference 11th read above.

11. And whereas in the reference 12th read above, the Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission have agreed with the proposal of the Government (copy enclosed to the Charged Officer).

12. Accordingly, Government, hereby order to impose a Penalty of stoppage of three annual grade increments with cumulative effect against Sri Md.Shajahan, Junior Assistant, Registrar Office, Original Branch, Rajahmundry.

13. The Direcrot & Inspector General, Registraion & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh and Deputy Inspector General, Registraion & Stamps, Kakinada shall take necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

Dr.D.SAMBASIVA RAO
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (CT, EXCISE & R&S)

To
The Director & Inspector General, Registration & Stamps,
Andhra Pradesh, Eedupugallu, Vijayawada, Krishna District.
The Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada
The Individual (w.e) (through the Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada with a request to serve the order on the individual and furnish the served copy along with dated acknowledgement to Government for record).
Copy to:
The Secretary to the Vigilance Commissioner,
Andhra Pradesh Vigilance Commission, Velagapudi, Andhra Pradesh, Secretariat, Guntur District.
The Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission, Hyderabad.
SF / SC.

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER